WATSON LEAVENWORTH KELTON & TAGGART

100 PARK AVENUE

LESLIE D. TAGGART
JOHN T. KELTON
NICHOLAS JOHN STATHIS
WILLIAM H. VOGT III
HERBERT BLECKER
HOWARD K. KOTHE
ALBERT ROBIN
THOMAS V. HEYMAN
ROBERT E. KOSINSKI
STEVAN J. BOSSES
GEORGE J. BRANDT, JR.
FRANK J. COLUCCI
GEORGE W. MACDONALD, JR.
MAXIM H. WALDBAUM

ROBERT M. FREEMAN
THERESA M. GILLIS
WILLIAM G. TODD
JAMES J. MEENROE
MORRIS N. REINISCH
STEPHEN J. MEYERS
DAVID R. PLAUTZ
DENNIS P. TRAMALONI
JOHN J. TORRENTE
ELIZABETH MANNING

NEW YORK 10017

LEONARD A. WATSON (1930-1960) ELLIS W. LEAVENWORTH (1930-1959)

> (AREA CODE 212) 683-4220

CABLE ADDRESS "WATSOLAW"

INTERNATIONAL TELEX

July 2, 1979

OF COUNSEL ELMER R. HELFERICH

RECTO (1) 1979

REMINDER FOR 8/79-Ge/

Dr. G. Esler Inskeep Senior Patent Agent Philip Morris Incorporated Law Department - Patent Section Research Center, P. O. Box 26583 Richmond, VA 23261

Re: CONTINUOUS PROCESS FOR EXPANDING TOBACCO

Serial No. 912,029

Our File: 582-847 PM #697

Dear Dr. Inskeep:

Enclosed is an Office Action which has been received in connection with the above-identified application. As you can see, the Examiner has rejected all of the claims over art which was discussed in the application. Note that although PTO Form 326 refers only to Claims 1 - 7, the accompanying Examiner's remarks discuss the rejection of all 11 claims.

Please review the Office Action with the inventors and advise me whether there are any further points which can be made to overcome this art beyond those already made in the application. Of particular interest would be any actual data indicating the benefits of the process relative to the cited art processes.

If you would like to discuss the Office Action, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Theresa M. Gillis

TMG/dp Enclosures 2026373047